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Compound Comminuted Fracture of the Left Metatarsus of a Pony Mare

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movements around the stall indicated that there was still some abdominal pain present.

A rectal examination revealed a large accumulation of fibrin and mucus in the rectum, a greatly distended cecum and a displacement and tension of the dorsal mesentery. The genital and urinary tracts were found to be normal as far as could be determined by rectal palpation. The history and symptoms indicated that the condition might be a partial obstruction or partial torsion of some part of the intestinal tract, so an exploratory laparotomy through the right paralumbar fossa was decided upon.

Palpation through the incision revealed the enlarged cecum to be three times larger than the average because of a constriction at the junction of the ileum, cecum and colon. Manipulation of the cecum to correct its position was impossible because of its distention, therefore the laparotomy site was enlarged and a portion of the organ was carried out through the incision. Most of the fluid content of the cecum was removed by incising the wall, after which it was closed with continuous Lambert sutures. The cecum had revolved around the junction of the ileum and colon, carrying some of the small intestine with it. As the cecum was revolved back to its normal position, the mass of intestines revolved with it and the constriction was relieved. Because of the voluminous mass of intestines, it could not be determined for certain that the manipulation had not formed a torsion at some other point. The fact that the tension on the dorsal mesentery had been relieved led to the belief that there were no more constrictions.

On December 23, two days following surgery, a small amount of solid dejecta was passed. On each succeeding day more solid fecal material was passed until the amount could be considered normal. Because of the extensive visceral manipulation, sulfa preparations were administered intraperitoneally (1 gr./lb. on two successive days following surgery) to reduce the possibility of peritonitis. Ruminant stimulants were given to aid in

restoration of the digestive processes.

The cow was discharged on December 29, and word from the owner on Jan. 8, 1954, indicated the animal was again in the milking line, completely recovered from her previous condition.

Sisson states that the posterior one-third of the bovine cecum is free floating without mesenteric attachment, so it seems that it would lend itself to torsion. Nothing could be found in literature concerning such a condition however, so it is probable that a displacement of the cecum, in most cases, would not carry a mass of small intestines with it to hold it in malposition as was true in this case.

James D. Francis, '54

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Compound Comminuted Fracture of the Left Metatarsus of a Pony Mare. A pregnant Shetland pony mare with a compound comminuted fracture of the left metatarsus was admitted to the clinic on March 22, 1953. An x-ray of the leg showed that there were about one hundred fragments of bone in the area of the fracture. The leg had been fractured the previous day. The mare was treated with 1500 units of tetanus antitoxin and 1,500,000 units of penicillin.

On the following day the patient was anesthetized with 150 cc. of Equitol and a splint type cast applied to the broken member. Surprisingly, the patient was rather alert for the next two days, but she then became depressed at which time daily use of 1,500,000 units of penicillin and 1 Gm. of streptomycin was instituted.

The splint type cast was removed on April 1, and the entire area cleaned. A new cast was applied at this time, Equitol again being used as the anesthetic agent. On April 7, the patient was anesthetized with Equitol for the third time in as many weeks and the cast removed. A foul smelling exudate was found to have saturated the cast, but the wound areas were found to be in good condition otherwise.

From this time on the mare began to pick up in her feed consumption and began to be more alert. Antibiotic therapy was still being employed.

A final anesthetic was employed in the form of Equitol on April 27. At this time the cast was removed and pressure necrosis observed on both sides of the hock and at the fetlock. A few bone spicules were observed protruding through the skin approximately four inches above the fetlock joint; these were removed. Again the entire area was cleansed and a new cast applied. This day marked the last use of antibiotic therapy, and from this time on, no odor was detected around the cast. Moreover, the mare continued to be in good spirits. She was then examined and found to be in the later stages of pregnancy.

The cast was removed for the final time on April 29, and an x-ray taken. There was good callus formation, although some bone necrosis was still remaining. On the subsequent days the leg was dusted with sulfanilamide powder and air slaked lime. Fly spray was used as needed. No further change in the mare's condition was noted until the night of June 24, when a successful parturition took place.

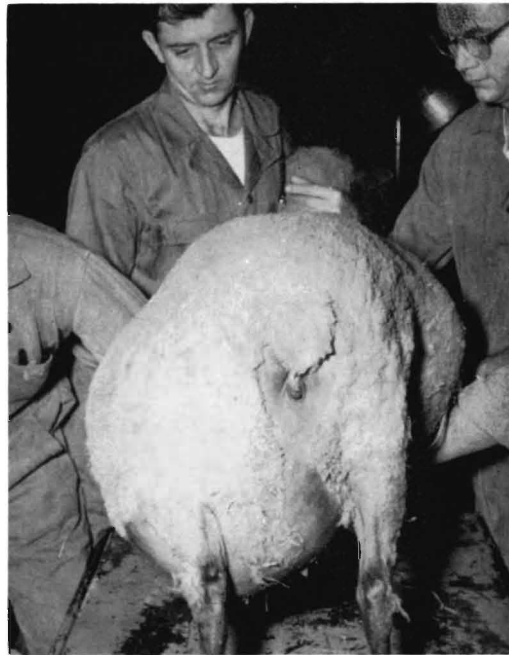
The mare was discharged on July 4, having undergone both successful healing of the compound comminuted fracture and a successful parturition.

Scot Dickinson, '54

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Hydrops Amnii in a Ewe. On April 28, 1953, a two-year-old ewe was presented at the clinic with a history of being bloated. The ewe was due to lamb in approximately one week.

Upon examination, the left side of the ewe was seen to be greatly distended posteriorly, with swelling of the subcutaneous tissue around the thigh. There appeared to be relaxation or separation of the abdominal muscles. The ewe was able to stand but had difficulty in moving about.



Hydrops amnii.

On April 29, the ewe was unable to stand alone. The swelling had increased from the previous day and considerable edema and displacement of the udder was noted. A tentative diagnosis of hydrops amnii was made, and it was decided to sacrifice the ewe in an attempt to save the lamb. The ewe was placed under nembutal anesthesia and two healthy lambs were delivered by caesarian section. Upon opening the abdominal wall, the uterus was found to be tremendously distended with fluid. A 14-inch horizontal rupture of the left flank muscles in their midportion was observed and only the skin remained intact. The ewe died post-operatively.

Gene Jordahl, '54

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Infarction of the Duodenum. On Dec. 18, 1953, a five-year-old Brown Swiss cow was admitted to the Stange Memorial Clinic. The patient had previously been examined by the ambulatory clinicians, at which time she had shown few diagnostic symptoms. She was